

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

of the

LIME ROCK FIRE DISTRICT, INC., 1085 Great Road, Lincoln RI 02865

Held August 10, 2010

CALL OF THE MEETING:

Mr. Ronald E. Rivet, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., August 10, 2010.

Present: Mr. Ronald E. Rivet, Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr., Mr. Paul Harrison, Mr. James A. Fredrikson, Chief Frank M. Sylvester, Office Manager/Tax Collector Ms. Lesley A. Heaton, Treasurer Ms. Christine E. Wood, Mrs. Margaret Lawton, Mr. Robert Heaton, Mr. Robert Theroux, and several firefighters.

Absent: Mr. Mark Krieger

MINUTES OF THE JULY 13, 2010 MEETING:

Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. made a motion to accept the Minutes of the July 13, 2010 meeting. Mr. Paul Harrison seconded the motion, which

passed with all Commissioners in agreement.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Captain Jonathan Wright thanked the Board of Fire Commissioners for their response to a letter received from Mr. Michael OConnell. He was advised that the response was only a draft.

The Captain also suggested that the Board hold a meeting prior to the Annual Meeting to discuss the Budget to avoid a repeat of the last Annual Meeting. Chief Sylvester stated that there was too much bad information that needed to be cleared up. Mr. Rivet indicated that an informational meeting could be beneficial to some individuals.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. made a motion to accept the Chief's Report as presented. Mr. James A. Fredrikson seconded the motion.

When Mr. Harrison questioned lending Engine 35 to Quinnville, he was advised that they had no truck and it was past practice to loan out our reserve vehicle.

Mr. Turner noted that Firefighter Gonsalves was back on duty.

Chief Sylvester informed the Commissioners that through dedicated volunteerism the firefighters had collected \$3,000 for MDA. They would continue through the Labor Day Weekend.

In response to his question, Mr. Rivet was advised that when FFs Dean and Russo pass the exam, the Department would have a total of six EMT-Cs.

Mr. Fredrikson asked if vehicle batteries were changed on a schedule. The Chief stated it was done as needed.

With no further discussion, the Chief's Report was approved with all Commissioners in agreement.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Paul Harrison made a motion to approve the Tax Collector's Report as presented. Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. seconded the motion.

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There was lengthy discussion relative to setting a \$10 minimum motor vehicle tax bill versus not issuing bills under \$10. With the new regulations vague, Ms. Heaton was asked to follow-up to see if the Town Solicitor would give an opinion, check with Opal Data Technologies, and Rosemary Gallogly, RI Director of Administration. Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. suggested setting the minimum motor vehicle tax bill at \$10 with a \$500 deduction on the assessed value of the vehicle.

The Tax Collector's Report was then approved with all Commissioners in agreement.

Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. made a motion to approve the Abatements in the amount of \$206.84 as presented and Refunds in the amount of \$200.00 as presented. Mr. Paul Harrison seconded the motion, which passed with all Commissioners in agreement.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. James A. Fredrikson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. seconded the motion.

In response to the Treasurer's recommendation to fund the Accrued Benefits Sinking Fund with \$25,000 for FY 2010-2011, Mr. Turner stated that he did not think that would be sufficient.

Mr. Rivet asked about the increase in cell tower income. Ms. Wood said it was a lease agreement increase.

With no further questions the Treasurer's Report was approved with all Commissioners in agreement.

BILLS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL:

Payroll Expenses: **dated 07/08/10-08/05/10 in the**
amount of \$108,404.95

Interim Expenses: dated 07/10/10-08/05/10 in

the amount of \$ 32,722.84

**Non-Budgetary Interim Expenses: dated 07/10/10-08/05/10 in
the amount of \$ 1,589.00**

**Bills for Initial Approval dated 08/06/10-08/06/10 in the
amount of \$ 2,763.11**

Total: \$145,479.90

**Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. made a motion to approve the Bills
Submitted for Approval as presented in the amount of \$145,479.90.
Mr. James A. Fredrikson seconded the motion, which passed with all
Commissioners in agreement.**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Motor Vehicle Taxation

**Discussion of motor vehicle taxation took place in the Tax Collector's
Report. Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. made a motion, pending further
input from Opal Data and the State, to use a \$10 minimum tax bill and
to deduct the first \$500 of assessed value. Mr. Paul Harrison
seconded the motion, which passed with all Commissioners in
agreement.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bereavement Leave

**Mr. Paul Harrison made a motion to approve Bereavement Leave as
presented. Mr. James A. Fredrikson seconded the motion, which**

passed with all Commissioners in agreement. The policy will be added to the Rules and Regulations.

Mr. Rivet asked to address Job Performance prior to the Budget. With no objections, Job Performance was addressed.

2. Job Performance

Mr. Rivet explained that Mr. Krieger asked to discuss job performance evaluations. It was understood that Open Meetings laws put restrictions on individual job performance discussion. Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. made a motion

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that considering Mr. Krieger's absence, the topic should be tabled until the next meeting. Mr. Paul Harrison seconded the motion, which passed with all Commissioners in agreement.

Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. made a motion to amend the Agenda by going to Correspondence before discussing the budget. Mr. Paul Harrison seconded the motion, which passed with all Commissioners in agreement.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ms. Wood read a letter addressed to the Board from Mr. Michael OConnell. She then read a draft response Mr. Rivet had crafted.

Some revisions were made and the location of Town rescues was discussed. Mr. Charles N. Turner, Jr. made a motion to approve Mr. Rivet's response letter to include the discussed revisions. Mr. James A. Fredrikson seconded the motion, which passed with all Commissioners in agreement.

Chief Sylvester read a statement titled "Integrity" as found in the May 2010 issue of JEMS (Journal of Emergency Medical Services).

Ms. Wood reviewed the responses received to the business evaluations of the Department and read the comments submitted by Davies Career & Technical High School. She also gave a synopsis of a letter submitted by four firefighters that had attended the annual National Fire Academy weekend training.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

3. Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget

The Commissioners quickly reviewed changes the Treasurer had made to the FY 09-10 budget to begin the draft for FY 10-11.

They questioned what the savings would be if the dollar amount on the Management Liability policy were reduced.

Mr. Turner asked the Treasurer to confer with the auditor for an actuarial opinion for accrued benefits budgeting. He stated that budgeting \$25,000 might still fall short of what should be added to the

sinking fund.

Ms. Wood noted that she had not had an opportunity to confer with the Chief on the draft, especially concerning building and vehicle maintenance and general supplies. She also stated she needed to update figures for health and safety.

Mr. Turner recommended reducing professional services. The Board agreed to reduce the line to \$25,000.

The Commissioners agreed that another meeting would be needed to work on the budget. Pending Mr. Krieger's availability it was agreed to meet on Tuesday, August 31.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Paul Harrison made a motion to adjourn. Mr. James A. Fredrikson seconded the motion, which passed with all Commissioners in agreement. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine E. Wood

Recording Secretary

cc: R. Rivet, M. Krieger, C. Turner, P. Harrison, J. Fredrikson, file

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